

**MINUTES BOOK\*\*TOWN OF COEYMANS  
February 27, 2020 – Public Hearing – 6:30pm**

**A Public Hearing was held Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 6:30pm at Town Hall, 18 Russell Avenue, Ravena, New York**

**PRESENT:** George D. McHugh, Supervisor  
Kenneth C. Burns, Councilman  
Zachary S. Collins, Councilman  
Brandon L. LeFevre, Councilman

**ABSENT:** Daniel D. Baker, Councilman

**ALSO PRESENT:** Cindy L. Rowzee, Town Clerk  
John Cashin, Code Enforcement Officer  
Daniel Contento, Officer in Charge  
Victoria Vadney, RCS Student Representative  
Nashaviyah Steward, RCS Student Representative

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Supervisor McHugh opened the meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He stated that a full board was present with the exception of Councilman Baker. He introduced Ms. Victoria Vadney and Ms. Nash Steward who were there for their government class at RCS.

Supervisor McHugh then stated that this would be a public hearing for comments on possibly drafting and proposing a local law with the Village on a Town curfew. He stated that they wanted to have a public hearing before they took that step. He also stated that he doesn't see this as solving the current issues but thinks that it could be part of the solution and is willing to consider it.

**Public Comment**

**Mr. John Vadney of Selkirk** stood and asked what ages this would be for and would it be for all of the Town or just the Ravena area. He also asked how they would enforce it.

Supervisor McHugh stated that they have some of those same questions and have gone back and forth with the age, whether it would be 18 and under or 15 and under. He has had some discussions with the Chief of Police and the Albany County Sheriff as to how it will be enforced. They are all in agreement that this is not the total answer. He then stated that it would be in the Village and the Town so it would be Town wide. Councilman Collins stated that you can't do one without the other.

Mr. Vadney then mentioned that he has seen videos of robberies off of Wendell but the children involved weren't arrested. He also mentioned the assault of a gentleman on Wendell. He stated that we need to start bringing these kids in and let them know that this will not be tolerated.

Supervisor McHugh stated that Family Court may need to get involved in some situations as the Police's hands are tied with children of certain ages. He spoke of a movement to establish a

**MINUTES BOOK\*\*TOWN OF COEYMANS**  
**February 27, 2020 – Public Hearing – 6:30pm**

Youth Court in the Town of Coeymans which would be a court of their peers. Some of these low level issues would be referred from the Police to the Youth Court.

Mr. Vadney stated that in his experience a Youth Court works out well and he thinks this is a great idea.

Town Clerk Rowzee asked if we used to have a Youth Court in the Town as she thought that she had seen something in the Town Records. Supervisor McHugh stated that he did not believe so.

Councilman Burns stated that in the past he remembers youth doing community service and Supervisor McHugh stated that sometimes a Youth Court sentence will be community service.

Councilman Burns then stated that he had been against the curfew until he spoke to a few parents and they voiced their concern about not being able to keep an eye on their older children while both parents are working. Having a curfew will take the pressure off the parents as they will be able to tell their children that they cannot go out because of the curfew.

**Mr. Daniel Boomer of Coeymans** stood and stated that he feels that the Police patrolling the streets will be a big help. He stated that he has not seen any on the streets recently. Having the Police patrolling more will lead to enforcement and keeping an eye on the kids, especially if they never know when there will be a police car.

Supervisor McHugh stated that they are considering adding a shift back in to the Village for foot and bike patrol only, on Thursday-Sunday evenings. This would add more community policing in the afternoon and evening time frame.

Councilman Burns stated that the officers are excited about this and really want to do it.

Mr. Boomer stated that he feels we just need to use the patrols we already have with cars.

Councilman Burns asked the two RCS Representatives how they felt about this as youth.

**Ms. Victoria Vadney** asked if there would be an exception for jobs and school events as that keeps them out later.

Supervisor McHugh stated that all of the laws they have looked at have an exception in them for jobs and school events.

There was discussion about if there was a curfew in the past or if it was something that the patrols just used to do.

Supervisor McHugh asked if there were any other comments. As there were none at this time he recessed the meeting until closer to 7pm.

**MINUTES BOOK\*\*TOWN OF COEYMANS**  
**February 27, 2020 – Public Hearing – 6:30pm**

At 6:58 Supervisor McHugh reopened the Public Hearing and asked if there was anything that anyone wished to say. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to close the public hearing.

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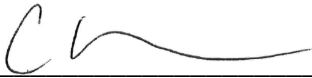
**Motion to Close Public Hearing**

On motion of Councilman Burns, seconded by Councilman Collins, the Public Hearing was closed.

APPROVED – VOTE – AYES 4 – NAYS 0 – ABSENT 1 – SO MOVED

Time – 6:58pm

*Respectfully Submitted,*



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*Cindy L. Rowzee, Town Clerk*